



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

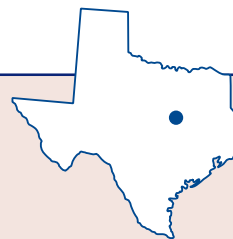
Waco, TX

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Waco was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. The city's population is 113,726, with 3,033 residents living within the target area around the Southwest Chemical Company site. The site lies in downtown's Brazos River Corridor, which is a federally designated Enterprise Zone/Enterprise Community. This area was an economically viable neighborhood until the mid-to-late 1960s. Since that time, the community has lost businesses, schools, and homeowners, and has experienced less growth than the west side of downtown Waco. The community around the site has a minority population of 88 percent, and almost half of the population lives below the poverty level. The target site is an abandoned building



Cleanup Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Waco for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to perform community outreach, off-site planning, cleanup planning, and cleanup activities for the Southwest Chemical Company "Blue Building" site. The site is contaminated with chemical and pesticide constituents associated with the former chemical batching facility.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team
214-665-6736
<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/bfpages/sfbfhome.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Waco, TX
254-750-8001

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

that was originally used in the 1950s for chemical batching of pesticides and herbicides, and later used for a number of commercial businesses. The in-ground mixing basin developed leaks over time, which caused underground contamination. Referred to as the "Blue Building," the abandoned building and associated property are located along a major thoroughfare of the city. Cleanup would provide an opportunity for redevelopment in a part of the city that is showing some signs of positive economic recovery, eliminate blight, and improve soil and water quality.